WGM, p5

The THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN

The Thoreau Society, Inc. is an informal gathering of students and followers of Henry David Thoreau. W. Stephen Thomas, Rochester, N.Y., president; Mrs. Charles MacPherson, Acton, Mass., vice-president; and Walter Harding, State University, Geneseo, N.Y. 14454, secretary-treasurer. Annual membership $2.00; life membership, $50.00. (After July 1, 1977, annual, $3.00; life, $100.00). Address communications to the secretary.

BULLETIN ONE HUNDRED THIRTY NINE US I S S N 0040 - 6406 Spring 1977

THOREAU SCHOLARSHIP TODAY by Walter Harding
(A PAPER READ AT THE MLA, NEW YORK CITY, DEC. 28, 1976)

To put it very briefly, Thoreau scholarship over the past ten or fifteen years, it seems to me, has been marked by its quantity if not always by its quality. Books and articles on H.D.T. have been pouring from the presses not by the dozens, but by the hundreds. Thoreau scholarship in the past fifteen years has probably equaled (in quantity, I wish to emphasize) all that produced in the preceding one hundred years. I can obviously touch upon only a few highlights and for this reason will confine most of my remarks to books, ignoring pretty generally any shorter pieces.

Let me start with Thoreau biography. I am astonished that not a single full-length biography of Thoreau has appeared since my own Days of Henry Thoreau (Knopf, 1965). I very definitely did not intend or even hope to say the last word on the subject. As I had stated in my Thoreau Handbook (N.Y.U., 1959), I felt a great need for a detailed, factual account of his life and since no one else seemed interested in doing it, like the little red hen, I did it myself. At the rate scholars are turning up new facts about Thoreau, it is approaching the time for a new factual biography--but I shall not be the little red hen this time.

I have long called for a good study of the development of Thoreau's mind. Sherman Paul's Shores of America (Illinois, 1958) immediately comes to mind. But with all its strengths and virtues, it has some huge lacunae--the fact, for example, it almost completely ignores the political side of Thoreau--and that for a study of the author of "Civil Disobedience" is quite a lacuna I think you'll agree. Robert Sattelmeyer of the University of Missouri is now at work on a checklist of Thoreau's reading as a preliminary to a more comprehensive study than Paul's--a very good beginning methinks. I have talked with him only briefly about his project but must confess I am greatly impressed and am looking forward eagerly to the completion of both his studies.

I have personally long been fascinated by the question of what made Henry Thoreau the great creative artist he was. The only Freudian study we have ever had of him is Raymond Gozzi's largely unpublished doctural thesis done at N.Y.U. in 1957. Unquestionably it is both thoughtful and provocative, but I have never found myself fully convinced of some of its major conclusions. Now next spring the University of Massachusetts will publish an Eriksonian study of Thoreau's young manhood by a newcomer to Thoreau scholarship, Richard Lebeaux. I have had the privilege of reading the manuscript and found it a particularly rewarding study of the relationship between Henry and his brother John as a creative catalyst. This winter Jonathan Katz published his Gay American History: A Documentary (Crowell) which contains a section on Thoreau that is going to raise some eyebrows. But since as the title implies, he includes only "documentary evidence", it raises some questions that have too long been avoided.

I for one would like to know a great deal more about the impact of the sexual attitudes of Thoreau's family, community, and times on him. How could so sensuous a man have been so frightened by sex and how much did his creativity come out of that tension? I don't know the answer to that question, but I suspect it had a great deal to do with it.

Now let me leave biography for criticism. That is where the great bulk of Thoreau scholarship has been in recent years. I have read, I believe, every volume of Thoreau criticism that has come out in recent years and in all honesty it appalls me when I realize how few I would ever want to read again. I suspect the publish--or--perish syndrome is the major cause, but I am simply astonished at how much is published that seems to make no real contributions to our knowledge nor to our understanding. Much of what is not simply a rehash of things already better said is so badly expressed or so wrong-headed that it is a waste of time to read. Of all the volumes that have been published in recent years, I find only a very few worth mentioning. One is Stanley Cavell's Senses of Walden (Viking, 1972), a short book and a difficult book. I am dense enough that I had to read it three times before I knew what it was about. But it is one, it seems to me, that gets at the very heart of Thoreau's thought. Another is Joel Porte's Emerson and Thoreau (Wesleyan, 1966), which although it has shaken up some of the Emersonians, has broken new ground in a study of the relationship of the two men. Another is Charles Anderson's The Magic Circle of Walden (Holt, 1968)--but I have some qualms about it. As a purely belletristic study of Thoreau's masterpiece, it is enlightening and rewarding, but there is so much more to Thoreau than just the belletristic that I could not help but feel that Anderson has missed most of the power and strength of Thoreau's mind. Another--one that has not been published yet but which I have had the good fortune to read in manuscript--is Michael Meyer's study of Thoreau's political reputation in the twentieth century, which has already won the Gabriel Prize and will be published by Greenwood in the spring. I found it an absolutely fascinating study of what has been happening to Thoreau's reputation in our time even though it has challenged a number of my own most cherished beliefs about Thoreau's own politics.

I do want to mention two other as yet unpublished books. The first is a collection of letters from Horace Hosmer, one of Thoreau's school pupils and lifelong admirers, to Dr. Samuel Arthur Jones, that grand old Thoreau enthusiast of years ago. It is

edited by George Hendrick and is to be published by the University of Illinois. I have read it in manuscript and it is a sheer and fabulous delight. The other I have not read. It is Robert Sayre's study of Thoreau and the American Indian that Princeton is publishing in the spring, but I have been told by several whose judgment I have learned to trust that it is outstanding.

I would also like to take time to mention several what I shall call "tool" books--volumes that I have found of great help as guide books in my own studies--and yet which I have found are for the most part strangely little known among Thoreau students. They include Eugene F. Timpe's Thoreau Abroad (Archon, 1971), a collection of twelve bibliographical essays surveying the impact of Thoreau around the world; James Karabatsos' A Word Index to A Week (Transcendental Books, 1971), a very useful companion to the much better known Word Index to Walden by Sherwin and Reynolds; Robert Stowell's Thoreau Gazetteer in the edition revised and updated by William Howarth (Princeton, 1970), an immensely helpful collection of maps of Thoreau's travels; and William Howarth's own Literary Manuscripts of Henry Daved Thoreau (Ohio State, 1973), an indispensable guide to the location of Thoreau manuscripts.

I am forced by time limits to ignore periodical articles on Thoreau, but I did take time to check over the lists of articles published in the past five years and find six that I think I should at least mention. They are Michael West's "Scatology and Eschatology: The Heroic Dimensions of Thoreau's Wordplay" (PMLA, October, 1974), a very un-Victorian study of Thoreau's puns in Walden; Wendell Glick's "Thoreau's Use of His Sources" (New England Quarterly, March, 1971) that reveals that Thoreau was just as capricious in editing other author's words as he complained other editors were in publishing his; Eugene Walker's "Walden's Way Revealed" (Man and Nature, December, 1971), in which a leading geologist solves some of the mysteries of Thoreau's favorite pond; Thomas Woodson's "Thoreau's Excursion to the Berkshires and the Catskills" (ESQ, 1975), a model of biographical scholarship; Philip Gura's "Thoreau and John Josselyn" (New England Quarterly, December, 1975), one of the few source studies I have found convincing; and that whole series of little notes that Thomas Blanding has been publishing over the years in the Concord Saunterer of forgotten or unknown reminiscences of Thoreau that Tom has been turning up in his indefagitable searches through dusty files in museums and libraries.

And now let me turn to textual scholarship. There is where the real action has been in recent years. The publication of the NEH-sponsored Princeton University Press edition of The Writings of Henry D. Thoreau, even though only four of a projected twenty-five volumes are as yet published, is the biggest event in Thoreau scholarship since the first publication of the Journal in 1906. For the first time we have a reliable text of Walden, The Maine Woods, and many of the essays; for the first time we have all the college essays; and for the first time we have such newly discovered essays as "Huckleberries" and "Reform and the Reformers." And who is not looking forward to the restored texts of the mutilated journals?

It has done my heart and soul good to see the new Thoreau edition housed in a beautiful format. So many of the CEAA editions have appeared in a format that looks as though it were designed by a truck driver--big, awkward, lumbering things with atrocious typography, unimaginative page design, and depressing bindings. The Thoreau volumes, in delightful contrast, show the artistic touch of P.J. Conkwright on every page. They are a delight to handle, easy to hold, and an absolute pleasure to read.

But I am not here just to praise the new Thoreau edition. I do have my caveats about it too and think they should be aired although not all here will agree with me. In the first place, despite (or ironically and more accurately, because of) the CEAA we have what I am convinced are faulty texts for at least two of the Thoreau essays already printed. The "Herald of Freedom" is not that which Thoreau intended for publication but a revision which he played around with and abandoned. And I am absolutley convinced that we should be using the 1867 "Civil Disobedience" rather than the 1849 "Resistance to Civil Government," for we have Thoreau's own words in an 1849 letter to Elizabeth Peabody that he was not satisfied with the 1849 version, and we have good evidence (much of it admittedly circumstantial, but with no negative evidence to challenge it) that the reworking into "Civil Disobedience" was Thoreau's own.

And finally I object to the CEAA requirement that all the textual notes and tables, even down to the end-of-line hyphenations, be appended to the text. I am all for having that textual study done. I am all for having the scholarship behind any emendations available for anyone who wants to judge for himself the accuracy of the decisions. And I think a brief summary of the rationale behind the major changes should be included in an introduction. But to insist that all the paraphenalia behind every minor spelling or puncturation change be tied to the text seems to me like insisting on leaving all the staging up around a beautifully restored building just to prove that the restoration has been done, and thus preventing the viewer from appreciating the beauty because of the distraction of the staging. Edmund Wilson was not so far from wrong when he spoke of the apparatus of the CEAA editions as being barbed wire, keeping the readers from the text. To my mind it would have made far more sense to issue all the minutia of the textual scholarship separately in microfilm or microfiche where it would have been readily available to the few specialists who needed it and not in the way of the general reader. I am happy that the Thoreau edition has at least chosen to print "clear text," relegating the barbed wire to the back of the book, and I am even happier that Princeton University Press is gradually issuing reader's editions without even the appendixes. But despite these caveats, I want to reiterate that the new Thoreau edition is the major event of Thoreau scholarship in many a year and a work to be proud of.

1-5-53

These drawings are reproduced from Thoreau's Journal. If you wish to identify them, simply look up the journal entry for the date indicated in the numerals.

1-26-53

ROBERT FRANCIS ON HENRY THOREAU by Linda H. Beaulieu

(Francis will speak at the 1977 Annual Meeting.)

I once asked Robert Francis at what age he had first read WALDEN. He touched his lips with his right index finger, elevated his chin, and let silence fill the livingroom at Ft. Juniper for what seemed to be several minutes. I indulged my imagination while he thought and let my mind picture Henry Thoreau sitting beside the fireplace on the low seat, a cast off from an old VW. Robert occupied the Mission chair at the right side of the fireplace, and I sat directly across from the two on the built-in sofa. "I don't believe I've ever read WALDEN from cover to cover," came the reply; and Henry disappeared with the soft summer breeze, as I expressed my surprise. "When were you first introduced to Thoreau in your studies?" Again, time to think. "I don't believe I read Thoreau until long after having read Emerson's works." There ensued a lengthy discussion of how Emerson had influenced him as a young man. "And in what ways has Thoreau influenced you?" I anticipated a carefully-thought-out list of details, but received only, "Well, I enjoy Thoreau for his images as well as his ideas."

Thus was born the idea for this paper. Could it be that Robert Francis, poet of Amherst, Massachusetts, contemporary and student of Robert Frost, lover of nature and solitude, Spartan in his habits and life style, a man who devoted his life to his writing, could not see the very Thoreauvian that he was?

The parallels between Francis and Thoreau are both obvious and subtle, and this short introduction will mention only a few. As Henry Thoreau had his Concord, Francis has had his Amherst for inspiration and idealizing. Each was uniquely influenced by its atmosphere and literary advantages. Thoreau and Francis both grew up in religious families--Francis, the son of a minister--and both came to reject the organized religious dogma for a sense of oneness with the universe that expressed how he viewed himself. The popular theory that Thoreau's Harvard days were lonely and difficult for him is being questioned by modern scholars, but facts would indicate that Henry's happier moments at college were in the library, rather than at social occasions. Francis readily admits that the loneliest year of his life was his senior year at Harvard, and claims, "Harvard's great gift to me was a negative one: it didn't make me a Harvard man." It's interesting, too, that both men had their college studies interrupted because of illness. Each man tried--failed--to make his living by teaching school. Neither could really work within the system, though each was admired by his students.

Much has been written about the Thoreau-Emerson friendship and what advantages that friendship and the break-up held for Henry Thoreau. Though the relationship between Robert Francis and Robert Frost was not as closely personal, the influence Frost had on Francis as a model and teacher should not be taken lightly. It is important to note, too, that the Francis-Frost relationship suffered the same fate as the Thoreau-Emerson friendship at times. As contemporaries of Thoreau criticized him for being a "carbon copy" of his great mentor, Francis, too, has been thought to be, "too much like Frost" in his subject matter and style. (Of course, Thoreau's work has been able to "survive the test of time" to prove its worth; but I am confident that the Tricentennial will not pass without witnessing a Princeton Edition of the Collected Works of Robert Francis.)

Francis was a conscientious objector in World War II and an ardent critic of the Vietnamese War. Each Sunday during the latter years of that war, he stood an hour-long silent vigil for peace, and his poetry written during that period reflects his opposition to war. Thoreau, too, openly criticized the Mexican War and its evils, but remained home in Concord to write and speak against it.

The most obvious parallel between the writings of Thoreau and Francis is the subject matter. Nature is everywhere in their works. And each took his inspiration from a daily communing with nature and a lifetime of need for solitude and quietude. Francis explains himself in his autobiography:

> I have already spoken of my need for a balance between people and no people, between literary people and plain people. Another trinity of values was even more distinct in my mind: nature, leisure, solitude. If these words sound pale and conventional, what they meant to me was vivid and precise. By "nature" I meant the whole heavens and earth except for those spots where human concentration was a blight and poison. I meant sun and sky and clouds and hills and rain and rivers and snow and country roads and farms and country people. By "leisure" I meant not the absence of work but time for the work I most wanted to do. I meant the obliteration of the line between work and play. By "solitude" I meant the freedom to choose from hour to hour whether to be with friends or alone.

Robert Francis once expressed great surprise that I would compare his home, Ft. Juniper, with Thoreau's Walden house. He thought he had so much more a comfortable home than did Thoreau until I showed him pictures of a replica of the Walden house; and he had to conclude that "probably Henry was quite comfortably off" while he lived at Walden Pond. So, too, is Francis in his small house in Amherst, which he built in 1940 for just under $1500.

Both Thoreau and Francis kept a journal and wrote of their immediate environment and especially about the people they knew and observed. Each man had a need and a desire to publish his writing for the world to see, and each found it necessary to finance his own first work. Each is a master of the pun and uses humor throughout his writings.

With so many obvious similarities between Francis and Thoreau, I wondered why Robert Francis himself was not keenly aware of his kinship with Henry Thoreau. Why could he not enumerate the ways, the very instances in his life, that he had felt Thoreau's influence or ideas? I think maybe the answer is that Francis is more like Thoreau, so near in spirit and life style, than he is actually influenced by him. That which is closest to us is sometimes hardest to see or feel.

8-15-53

A CHECKLIST OF FRANCIS' WRITINGS ON THOREAU

I.

Essays on the Home Forum Page of the Christian Science Monitor

Thoreau's search	May 10, 1939
A walk to the 19th century	January 6, 1940
The small small house	June 13, 1942
Traveling in Concord	July 31, 1952
Walden and Innisfree	November 6, 1952

II.

"Country Comment" Column in Forum

Beans for Thoreau	July, 1946

Simplifying	August, 1947
Miniature Thoreau	March, 1948

III.

Prose in Magazines	
Two Brothers (John & Henry Thoreau)	DALHOUSIE REVIEW, April, 1929
Essays in FORUM	
Thoreau's mask of Serenity	January, 1947
On a Theme by Thoreau	April, 1947

IV.

POEMS

"Two Words" First published in POETRY magazine in August, 1946, this poem was later included in THE FACE AGAINST THE GLASS, published in 1950. It does not mention Thoreau directly, but it does mention Emerson and Walden Pond. It is the earliest poetical reference to Concord, although Francis wrote about Thoreau and Concord in many of his prose pieces prior to 1945.

"The Articles of War" This poem was first published in the MASSACHUSETTS REVIEW, Autumn, 1965 and later included in COME OUT INTO THE SUN, published in 1965. The poem speaks of Henry trying to "disentangle from the State," and one wonders if Francis views himself as Henry.

"Thoreau In Italy" First published in the MASSACHUSETTS REVIEW, Spring, 1962, this poem won Francis recognition in BEST POEMS OF 1962 (Borestone Mountain), published in 1963. It was also used in THOREAU IN OUR SEASON, published by U. Mass. Press in 1966. Francis included the poem in COME OUT INTO THE SUN. It deals with a favorite theme of his and Thoreau's--traveling a good deal while staying at home.

"History III" There are four sections to the poem Francis calls "History," and III deals with Henry Thoreau, Henry James, and Henry Adams. It typifies the wit and humor of Robert Francis, but I must confess that I'm baffled by the last line.

"Blueberries" This poem is included in the "New Poems" section of Robert Francis Collected Poems 1936-1976, published in 1976. It is an example of one of Robert's "word count" poems and pictures Henry on the morning of his release from the Concord jail.

7-24-53

THOREAU IN ENGLAND by Peter laver

I) THOREAU ON TYNESIDE

Jack Common's Kiddar's Luck (1) (first published in 1951) has recently been reissued. Common, born in the Newcastle on Tyne suburb of Heaton in 1903, was a close friend of George Orwell and worked as a script-writer until his death in 1968. The story of life on Tyneside before the 1914-18 war, it's no surprise to find references to Thoreau within the libertarian philosophy of Kiddar's Luck. Ma McGrewin, member of the "Ma Gang", a bunch of working-class women who support their drinking habit by pawning their few household goods is introduced, ironically, as one who "had reduced her household to a bareness which even Thoreau himself had not contemplated. 'Simplify!' said the New England philosopher. Well, she had simplified every room pretty near down to the original bare buff ... the children slept on the floor in rooms clockless, vase-less, picture-less, and dish-less--they drank out of jam-jars."

More direct evidence of Thoreau's impact on Tyneside is apparent in the life-style of the hero's Uncle Robin, a self-confessed crank (A crank," quoted he, "is a little thing, but it makes revolutions".) Robin, like Thoreau, was a bachelor "by persuasion" who lived over empty shops (to avoid snooping neighbours) where he carried out his electrician's trade. "Within the limits of his own crankihood", says Kiddar of Robin, "he was hospitable. I've no doubt that when I first went to see him...he set me down to a meal of some sort or other."

But what sort? That for the orthodox was a question. As a vegetarian and bachelor he did his own cooking. As a disciple of Thoreau he did as little as possible.

2) THOREAU AND ROBERT BLATCHFORD

In the library of Kiddar's Uncle Robin were works not only by Kropotkin, Morris and Thoreau, but also by Robert Blatchford, author (under the pseudonym Nunquam) of Merrie England.(2) The recently issued facsimile of this work should be of interest to Thoreau Society Members: Merrie England combines shrewd insight into the false economies of capitalism with practical individualism, and Blatchford makes several references to Thoreau, recommending Walden to his readers with quotes from, and particular emphasis on, "Economy".

This is an item of importance to those who are interested in the development of British socialism and Thoreau's incidental place in that movement.

1. COMMON, Jack. Kiddar's Luck and The Ampersand. Pub. Frank Graham, Newcastle on Tyne. 1975.

2. Merrie England is printed by the Journeyman Press, 97 Ferme Park Road, London N8 9SA, England $2.50 by internation money order or $3.50 by cheque, from Central Books Ltd, 37 Grays Inn Road, London WC I, England.

5-14-53

ADDITIONS TO THE THOREAU BIBLIOGRAPHY. . WH

Anon. A VISIT TO THOREAU'S HAUNTS. New York: UnWise Press, 1959. Reprinted from GENIUS. Limited to 15 copies.

Janes Deane. "Viewpoint" Living Wilderness 40 (July, 1976), 3. Editorial on Walden Pond.

MOOSEHEAD GAZETTE. "A Guide to Thoreau's 1857 Trip on Moosehead Lake." Feb. 4, 1977.

Paul, Sherman. "Thoreau's WALDEN," In REPOSSESSING & RENEWING. Baton Rouge: La. State Univ. Press, 1976. pp. 14-56. Reprint

Seaburg, Alan. "The Pregant Fish," CAPE ROCK. 12 (Winter, 1976), 29. Poem.

-----. "Thoreau College," SPIRIT, 43 (Spr. 1976), 18-19. Poem.

-----. "Thoreau of concord," ALDEBARAN, 6 (Dec. 1976), 20. Poem

Thoreau, Henry D. "Further Selections from the "Indian Notebooks,'" edited by Richard Fleck,

THOREAU JOUR. QUART., 9 (Jan. 1977), 2-23
-----. "Journal" in Walter Teller, ed. ON THE RIVER: A VARIETY OF CANOE AND SMALL BOAT VOYAGES. New Brunswick: Rutgers, 1977. pp. 5-28. A selection of Thoreau's boating adventures excerpted from the JOURNAL by last summer's annual meeting speaker. A delightful volume.
-----. WALDEN. Secaucus, NJ.: Longriver Press, 1976. 297 pp. A cheap reprint in a fancy binding.
-----. WALDEN & LA DESOBEDIENCIA CIVIL. Trans. into Spanish by Carlos Sanchez Rodrigo. Prologo by Henry Miller. Barcelona: Ediciones del Cotal, S.A., 1976. 371pp.
Thurin, Erik Ingvar. THE UNIVERSAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF RALPH WALDO EMERSON. Lund, Sweden: Gleerup, 1974. Includes much on the relationship of Thoreau and RWE.

We are indebted to the following for information used in this bulletin: W. Bly, J. Broderick, F. Dedmond, J. Donovan, R. Epler, L. Kleinfeld, A. Kovar, W. McInnes, M. Meyer, C. Moseley, J. Myerson, R. Needham, A. Seaburg, E. Teale, and R. Thompson. Please keep the secretary informed of items he has missed and new items as they appear.

8-31-52

THOREAU AS A SURVEYOR by Rich Howard.

How good a surveyor was Henry D. Thoreau? The question can be quickly answered by referring to the Society Booklet 28, "A Catalog of Thoreau's Surveys in the Concord Free Public Library", and by carrying out a few routine calculations. I chose two plats of relatively simple boundaries (and legible handwriting)--the Plan of the Yellow-House Lot and the Plan of the Court House Grounds.

Two terms commonly used to describe the accuracy of a survey are the error of closure, which is the distance by calculation lacking between the starting and finishing point--the "gap" when plotting the actual survey--; and the precision, which is the total distance traversed divided by the error of closure.

Following the bearings and distancesgiven for the Court House Grounds Survey, the error of closure is found to be 1.68 feet for a traversed distance of 1114.17 feet, for a precision of 663, or as commonly written 1:663, meaning 1 foot of error for every 663 feet traversed. Modern regulations (for the state of West Virginia) require a precision of 1:1500 for a rural survey, and 1:5000 for a city lot survey. But considering the improvement of equipment and technique over 125 years, Thoreau's survey is remarkably good for that time. Looking at the Yellow-House Lot Plan, we find an error of closure of .53 feet for a traversed distance of 678.47 feet, for a precision of 1:1289! Though modern surveys usually greatly surpass the necessary accuracy, we see Henry D. Thoreau certainly distinguishes himself as a superbly competent surveyor of his time, as well as the other dozen or so titles he has been praised or cursed under.

1-21-53

WALDEN COMES TO THE CONCORD TOWN LIBRARY by Robert Sattelmeyer

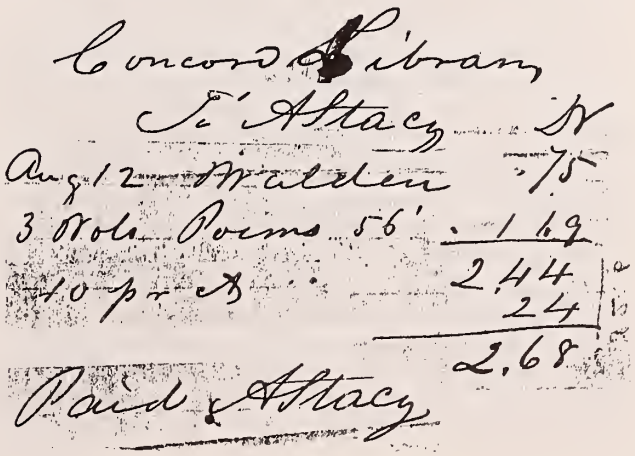
This receipt for the purchase of Walden, signed by Albert Stacey, librarian of the Concord Town Library, turned up in 1976 while I was investigating the accession records of the library for the light they might shed on Thoreau's reading during the 1850's. The original is now in the Thoreau Society Archives at the Concord Free Public Library.1 The intrinsic interest of the document lies in the shift in Thoreau's local reputation which it records, for it was a signpost of Concord's belated recognition of its recalcitrant native son that the fledgling public library should acquire upon its publication the book Henry Thoreau wrote to explain his mode of life to his townspeople. The library, and the town, had not always been that conscientious.

When the Town Library, which began in 1851 as an outgrowth of the Concord Social Library, issued its first catalogue in 1852, it did not own Thoreau's A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, which had been published in 1849. This oversight, while not due to a scarcity of copies, is perhaps not surprising. What is surprising, however, is that the library owned nothing by the town's (and by this time, America's) leading literary figure, Ralph Waldo Emerson. But when Albert Stacy replaced his father, John Stacy, as librarian after the library's first two years of operation, he began to pay more attention to Concord writers. By the time of the next catalogue, 1855, the library owned A Week, Walden, and a complete collection of Emerson's major works to date: Nature; Essays, First Series; Essays, Second Series; Poems; and Representative Man.

Stacy's receipts for books purchased during his tenure as librarian, still preserved in the records of the Concord Free Public Library, often provide the only extant information about the growth of this important collection during the years when Emerson, Thoreau, and other major literary figures were living and writing in Concord. Apparently, the "puny beginning of a library" Thoreau referred to in Walden, which had joined the rest of the world in ignoring his first book, was now sufficiently interested in him to obtain a copy of his newest work as soon as it was issued--and to accord its author a place of recognition if not of prominenece in its collection.

University of Missouri--Columbia.

1 My thanks to Mrs. Marcia Moss, Research Librarian at the Concord Free Public Library and Thoreau Society Archivist, for her help in uncovering this document; information about the Concord Town Library contained in this note is taken from the 1852 and 1855 catalogues of the library preserved at the Free Public Library, and from the "Concord Free Public Library Centennial," a pamphlet recounting the library's history prepared and published by the Library Committee in 1973.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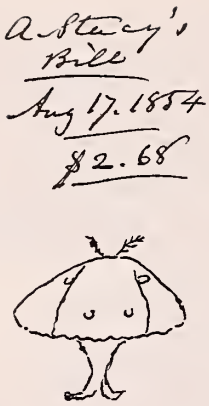

7-8-52

NOTES AND QUERIES

The following back issues of our bulletin are available at 10 for $1.00--21-58, 69, 70, 73-79, 81-83, 85-94, 96, 98, 104, 106, 108, 109, 111-134. A reprint of bulletins 1-9 is 50¢. Booklets 5, 8, 10, 14, 22, 26, & 27 are available at 50¢ each; 6, 23 at $1.00 each; and 28 at $2.00. An expanded Booklet 17 has been issued by the Univ. of Mass. Press as THOREAU IN OUR SEASON for $4.50 and Booklet 21 as THE THOREAU CENTENNIAL is available from State Univ. of N.Y. Press for $5.00. Bulletins 1-100 are available in hardcover form Johnson Reprint Corp., 111 Fifth Ave., NYC, 10003, for $15.00.

Your secretary has available 5x7 glossy prints of the Maxham daguerreotype, the Rowse crayon, the Dunshee ambrotype, and the Ricketson caricature of Thoreau for 50¢ each.

The cost of printing this bulletin has been generously donated by Mr. August B. Black of Morris, Illinois.

A cartoon in the February, 1977 MODERN MATURITY shows a man in a gas mask hitchhiking to Walden Pond.

An article by Mary Fenn in the February 17, 1977 CONCORD JOURNAL points out that the underpinning stones still mark the site of the fanciful summer-house Alcott and Thoreau built for Emerson to the left of his barn.

Thoreau's own copy (autographed twice) of D. Tomas Iriarte's FABULAS LITERARIAS is being offered for sale by In Our Time, P.O. box 386, Cambridge, Mass. 02139, for $3500.

Rick Howard of Buckhannon, W. Va.; Yuji Nakata of Kobe, Japan; and Mary Nix of Oshawa, Ontario have recently becomelife members. Life membership, now $50, will be raised to $100 as of July 1, 1977.

Add to your collection of Thoreau souvenirs a birthday card quoting his "Heaven is under our feet" by Hallmark; a notecard quoting the "different drummer " by Stevenson Industries of Winston-Salem, N.C." and one of the loveliest of Christman cards we have seen, with an illuminated version of his "Books are the treasured wealth of the world" by Gordon Fraser in Bedford, England. Cody's Book Store, 2424 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Cal. 94704, have another of their Thoreau Calendars for 1977, this one entitled "The Season's Wine."

J. Parker Huber of Eastern Conn. State College in Willimantic will be conducting another of his college credit tours of Maine this summer.

The "Linda Ronstadt's Greatest Hits" album features "Different Drum," a song by Mike Nesmith which begins, "You and I travel to the beat of a different drum/Can't tell by the way I run/Every time you make eyes at me."

Cultured Tees (P O Box 232, Newton Center, Mass. 02159, are selling Thoreau T-shirts with the Maxham daguerreotype on the front $6, sizes(S,M,L,XL).

Miss Anne Prescott of San Francisco, Cal., has donated to the Thoreau Society Archives four essays on Thoreau written by her high school students.

7-31-53

THE 1977 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Thoreau Society will be held on Saturday July 9th in the First Parish Church in Concord, Mass. The coffee hour will begin at 9 a.m.. The business meeting will be called to order at 10:15, and it will be followed by the Speaker of the Day Robert Francis (See Linda Beaulieu's article in this bulletin) who will speak on "Thoreau on the Benevolence of Nature." Next will be the presidential address on "The Puzzle of Thoreau's Calendar of the Seasons" by W. Stephen Thomas. A luncheon will be served at 12:30 for $3.50 Tickets may be purchased from Mrs. Charles D. MacPherson, 46 Nagog Hill Road, Acton, Mass. 01720. Deadline, July 5.

The afternoon program will consist of the usual quiz, nature walks, and tours of Concord's famous sites.

The Thoreau Lyceum will hold its annual sherry party at 5 p.m. and box supper at 6. Tickets for the supper must be ordered from the Lyceum, 156 Belknap Street, Concord, Mass. 01742 at $2.25 each. Make checks out to the Thoreau Foundation, Inc. Deadline, July 5.

The evening meeting at the First Parish Church will include a new film on Thoreau prepared by the Encyclopedia Britannica.

For those who arrive in Concord early, on Friday evening July 8, the Thoreau Lyceum will present a lecture by Michael Meyer, author of the forthcoming (this spring) book on Thoreau entitled "Several More Lives to Live."

Anyone who would be interested in joining a discussion group on Thoreau on Friday morning July 8 and/or Sunday July 10, in Concord, should get in touch with Linda Beaulieu, Box 65, Holcomb, NY 14469. She would also welcome suggestions of topics for discussion.

NOMINATIONS:

The Nominating committee (Earl Hunsaker, Robert Needham, Samuel Wellman, and Linda Beaulieu, chairman) announce the following slate of officers: for terms of one year; President, Paul Williams of Elsah, Ill.; President-elect, Wendell Glick of Duluth, Minn.; vice-president, Mrs, Charles MacPherson of Acton, Mass.; Secretary-treasurer, Walter Harding of Geneseo, New York; and for members of the executive committee for terms of three years: Thomas Blanding of Princeton, N.J., and Betty Gatewood of New York City. Further nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

7-28-52

THE THOREAU COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO BOOK PRICES BROUGHT UP-TO-DATE .... WH (Continued from Bulletin 135, Winter, 1975)

Thoreau, Henry David. CAPE COD N.Y. 1951 (Notes by Lunt)

Currey, Elizabethtown, N.Y., 1971, $5.00
Yankee Peddler, Pultneyville, N.Y., 1972, $4.50
N.E. Books, Petersham, Mass., 1972, $3.75
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, Mass., 1972, $6.50
----. CAPE COD (Kane-Berton ed.)
Pub. Central Bureau, Long Island City 1972, $1.98
----. CAPE COD N.Y., 1968 (Limited Editions Club)
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971 $30.00
----. CAPE COD Heritage Club Press, 1968, Intro. by J.W. Krutch
Lyceum, Concord, Mass., 1976 $22.50
----. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE Booton, N.J., 1946
Herb West, Hanover, Vt. 1966, $1.00
----. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE Boston, 1969, Gehenna Press (David Godine) Limited to 650 copies
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973 $15.00
Carnegie, N.Y.C., 1974, $10.00
----. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, Saugatuck 1950
Literary Heritage, Stoughton, Mass. 1972 $5.00
Literary Heritage, Stoughton, Mass. 1972 $5.00
----. COLLECTED POEMS OF HENRY DAVID THOREAU, Chicago: 1943
N.E. Books, Petersham, Mass., 1972 $15.00
----. COLLECTED POEMS, Baltimore, 1966
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1975 $12.75
----. THE CONCORD AND THE MERRIMACK: Boston, 1954
Nicholas Books, Williamstown, Mass., 1958 $1.98
Pangloss Bookshop, Cambridge, Mass., 1959 $3.00
Social Science Book Store, Bayside N.Y., 1960 $3.50
Social Science Book Store, Bayside NY, 1961 $3.00
----. CONSCIOUSNESS IN CONCORD, Boston, 1958
The Cal Armstrongs, Mound, Minn., 1961, $1.50
Strand Book Store, N.Y., 1963, $2.00
Roger D. Harris, Adams, Mass., 1964, $2.50
Bleecker Books, Brooklyn, N.Y., 1964, $4.00
Strand Book Store, N.Y., 1965, $2.50
Herb West, Hanover, N.H., 1966, $6.00
Rimrock, Petersham, Mass., 1966, $4.25
Strand Book Store, N.Y., 1967, $2.00
Wm. H. Allen, Philadelphia, 1969, $3.00
----. CONSCIOUSNESS IN CONCORD, Boston, 1958
Yankee Pedler, Pultneysville, N.Y., 1972 $5.00
Bleecher, Brooklyn, N.Y., 1973, $6.00
----. CORRESPONDENCE OF THOREAU, N.Y., 1958
Book-Bargains-By-Mail, Pittsburgh, 1959, $12.50
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1959, $12.50
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord, Mass., 1960, $10.50
Raven, N.Y., 1966, $12.50
----. "DAYS IN JUNE", Atlantic Monthly June, 1878
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $30.00
----. EARLY SPRING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, 1881 (First edition)
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $45.00
Argosy, N.Y.C., 1972 $25.00
----. EARLY SPRING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, 1883
Fordham Book Co., New Rochelle, N.Y., 1959 $3.50
Starr Book Shop, Cambrdige, Mass., 1969, $6.00
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, Mass., 1970, $8.50
----. EARLY SPRING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, 1884
New England Books, Petersham, Mass., 1965, $4.00
Wilton Cross, Petersham, Mass., 1969, $4.50
----. EARLY SPRING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, 1893
Johnson, N. Bennington, Vt., 1971, $3.50
----. EARLY SPRING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Boston, 1898
John Johnson, Bennington, Vt., 1963, $3.00
Old Trading Post, Lisbon, N.H., 1966, $8.75
Drew's Book Shop, Walden, Mass., 1967, $5.00
John Johnson, Bennington, Vt., 1970, $3.50
----. ESSAYS, London, n.d. Edited by W. H. Dircks
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1956, $1.50
----. ESSAYS & OTHER WRITINGS, London, nd
M. Kershner Book Shop, New York, 1955, $2.00
Wm. J. Henneman, Chicago, 1959, $1.00
The Raven Book Shop, N.Y.C., 1955, $3.50
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1957, $1.50
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1958, $2.50
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1959, $1.50
Herbert West, Hanover, N.H., 1961, $1.00
John Johnson, Bennington, Vt., 1963, $1.50
----. EXCURSIONS, Boston, 1863 (First edition)
Burstein, Walthan, Mass., 1971, $35.00
Current Co., Bristol R.I., 1971, $295.00
(Presentation, Mrs. Thoreau to Sanborn)
Oriole, Los Angeles, 1971, $14.00
Howell, San Francisco, 1971, $50.00
Current, Bristol, R.I., (A.L.S. from HDT laid in)1972
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $40.00 $995.00
MacManus, Philadelphia, 1973, $75.00
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1973, $35.00
Current Bristol, R.I., 1974, $145.00
Burstein, Walthan, Mass., 1975, $35.00
Goodspeed, Boston, 1975, $85.00
----. EXCURSIONS, Boston, 1864
Country Lane, Collinsville, Conn. 1972, $5.00
M&S Ran Books, Westor, Mass., 1972, $20.00
----. EXCURSIONS, Boston, 1866 Ticknor & Fields
Heritage, Hollywood,CAlif., 1974, $12.50
----. EXCURSIONS, 1883, Boston
Thoreau Lyceum, 1971, $8.50
----. EXCURSIONS, Boston, 1893
Social Science Book Shop, Bayside, N.Y., 1960, $3.00
Bleecker Books, Brooklyn, NY, 1964, $4.00
The Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1968, $7.50
----. EXCURSIONS, New York, 1913, (Johnson, ed.)
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, Mass., 1972, $8.50
----. FAMILIAR LETTERS, Boston, 1894
Biblo & Tanner, N.Y.C., 1971, $6.00
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $4.50
N.E. Books, Petersham, Mass. 1972, $10.00
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, Mass., 1972, $8.50
----. FAMILIAR LETTERS, Boston, 1894 (Large paper ed.)
J&S Graphis, Chicago, 1971, $35.00
----. FAMILIAR LETTERS, Boston, 1895
Raven Book shop, NY, 1966, $5.00
Country Lane Books, Collinsville, Conn. 1971 $2.50
----. FAMILIAR LETTERS. Boston, 1899
Dauber & Pine, NY, 1956, $3.50
Argosy Book Stores, N.Y., 1965, $4.50
----. FAMILIAR LETTERS, Boston, 1906
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord, Mass. 1960, $2.75
----. THE FIRST AND LAST JOURNEYS OF THOREAU Boston, 1905 (Sanborn, F. B., ed.)
Strand Book Store, N.Y., 1959, $10.00
New England Books, Petersham, Mass., 1963, $15.00
----. THE FIRST AND LAST JOURNEYS OF THOREAU, Boston, 1905
Daugherty, West Harford, Conn., 1971, $40.00
----. OF FRIENDSHIP, an essay, Cambridge, 1901
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1972, $20.00
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973, $20.00
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1974, $55.00
Baldwin, West Chester, PA, 1975, $12.50
----. FRIENDSHIP, East Aurora, 1903
Edward Morrill, Boston, 1966, $5.00
Argosy, New York (Hand-illuminated), 1971, $15.00
----. FRIENDSHIP, Boston, 1907 (Merryment Press)
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord Mass., 1960, $3.50
Starr Book Co., Cambridge, Mass., 1966, $10.00
----. FRIENDSHIP & OTHER ESSAYS, Giraud, Ham. Holdeman-Julian
North Shore Books, Huntington, NY, 1976, $2.50
----. FRIENDSHIP, LOVE & MARRIAGE, East Aurora, 1910
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord, Mass., 1960, $2.00
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord, Mass., 1961, $2.00
G. MacManus, Philadelphia, 1966, $3.00
The Bookcellar, Laramie, Wyo., 1968, $4.00

----. FRIENDSHIP LOVE & MARRIAGE, East Aurora, 1925
The Book & Print Shop, Hanover, NH, 1957, $1.25
----. A HAPPY LIFE: THOUGHTS FROM THOREAU, London
C.W. Caniel, N.d. (c. 1910), 62pp.
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 12-72, $10.00
----. HEART OF THOREAU'S JOURNALS, Boston, 1927
MacManus, Philadelphia (large public acy), 1972, $17.50
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $9.50
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1972, $7.50
Jeff Wilson, Newtown Sq., PA, 1973, $6.50
----. "HIGHLAND LIGHT" Atlantic Monthly, Dec. 1864
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $30.00
----. HOUSE WARMING AND WINTER VISIORSS, Camden, 1936
Edward Morrill, Boston, 1770, $10.00
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973, $14.50
----. HUCKLEBERRIES, Iowa City, Windhover Press, 1971
Currey, Elizabethtown, NY, 1971, $25.00
Literary Heritage, Stoughton, Mass., 1972, $25.00
Nomland, Los Anglles, 1972, $40.00
Oelgart, Newburyport, mass., 1974, $35.00
----. IN THE MIDST OF WINTER, Cambridge, 1965
O.P. Book Center, NY, 1979, $10.00
----. IN WILDNESS IN THE PRESERVATION OF THE WORLD
San Francisco, 1962
Biblo & Tanner, NYC, 1971, $12.00
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1973, $25.00
Current, Bristol, R.I., 1975, $35.00
----. JOURNALS (4 vols.), Boston, 1949
Bartfield, NY, 1971, $125.00
----. JOURNAL, Boston, 1949
Argosy Book Stores, NY, 1957, $37.50
R.C. Cherry Harthcock School, 1959, $10.00
G. MacManus, Philadelphia, 1966, $15.00
----. The JOURNAL, Boston, 1949
Social Science Book Store, Bayside, NY, 1961 $145.00
----. JOURNAL (14 bolumes bound as 2)
Literary Heritage, Stoughton, Mass., 1972 $20.00
Carnegie, NYC, 1974, $14.00
----."KATAACH & THE MAINE WOODS", Univ. Magazine, July-Nov. 1848
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $55.00
----."THE LANDLORD", Democratic Review, Oct. 1843
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $20.00
----. LETTERS TO VARIOUS PERSONS, Boston, 1865 (First editions)
M&S, Wenton, Mass., 1971, $42.50
M&S, Weston, Mass., 1972, $42.50
Country Lane, Collinsville, Conn., 1972, $27.50
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1972, $110.00
Current Co, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $275.00
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1972, $30.00
MacManus, Phila., 1973, $50.00
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973, $30.00
MacManus, Philadelphia, 1974, $50.00
Current, Bristol, RI, 1974, $120.00
MacManus, Philadelphia, 1974, $50.00
Jenkins, Co., Austin Tex., 1974, $65.00
Jenkins, Co., Austin Tex., 1975, $57.50
Jenkins, Co., Austin Tex., 1975, $45.00
----. LETTERS TO VARIOUS PERSONS, Boston, 1881
Fordham Book Co., New Rochelle, NY, 1959, $3.50
Charles E. Tuttle, Rutland, Vt., 1965, $3.50
----. LETTERS TO VARIOUS PERSONS, Boston, 1881
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1972, $8.50
----. "LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE", Atlantic Monthly, Oct. 1863
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $50.00
----. LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE, NY, 1936
Dunaway, St. Louis, No., 1970, $2.00
----. LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE, etc. Stanford, 1946, (Henry Miller, ed.)
Literary Heritage, Stoughton, Mass., 1971, $32.00
Current Co, Bristol, R.I., 1973, $37.50
----. A LITTLE BOOK OF NATURE THEMES, Portland, Mosher. 1906
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973, $8.75
----. LITTLE ESSAYS FROM THE WORKS OF HENRY DAVID THOREAU, Boston, 1931
G.S. MacManus, Philadelphia, 1960, $4.00
Wm. H. Allen, Philadelphia, 1961, $35.0
Starr, Cambridge, Mass., 1966, $7.50
----. THE LIBING THOUGHTS OF THOREAU, NYC, 1939
O.P. Book Center, Long Island City, 1972, $5.00
----. THE LIVING THOUGHTS OF THOREAU, London, 1946
Raven Book Shop, NY, 1956, $2.00
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1956, $2.25
Malcolm Ferguson, W. Concord, Mass., 1960, $2.00
----. THE MAINE WOODS, Boston, 1864 (First Edition)
McManus, Philadelphia., 1971, $65.00
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $45.00
Howell, San Francisco, 1971, $90.00
Current Co, Bristol, R.I., 1972, $125.00
M&S, Weston, Mass., 1972, $50.00
MacManus, Phila., 1973, $75.00
Goodspeed, Boston, 1975, $75.00
----. MAINE WOODS, Boston, 1866
M. Kershner Book Shop, NY, 1955, $3.50
----. MAINE WOODS, Boston, 1871
Old Trading Post, Lisbon, NH, 1966, $8.75
----. MAINE Woods, Boston, 1883
Fordham Book Co, New Rochelle, NY, 1959 $3.50
----. THE MAINE WOODS, Boston, 1891
Drew's Book Shop, Walden, Mass., 1967, $4.00
----. THE MAINE WOODS, Boston:, 1893
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1971, $8.50
----. MAINE WOODS, Boston,1906
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1971, $10.00
----. MAINE WOODS, NY, 1909 (Johnson, Ed.)
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1972, $8.50
N.E. Books, Petersham, mass., 1972, $6.00
----. THE MAINE WOODS (Lunt edition)
Pub. Central Bureau, Long Island City, 1972 $1.98
N.E. Books, Petersham, Mass., 1972, $6.50
Sehucman, NYC, 1975, $5.00
----. THE MAINE WOODS, NY, 1961
Gramercy Book Shop, NY, 1966, $4.00
----. MEN OF CONCORD, Boston, 1936
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, mass. 1972, $30.00
Edward Morrill, Boston, 1974, $20.00
----. MEN OF CONCORD, NY, 1971
Pub. Central Bureau, Long Island City, 1972, $3.95
N.E. Books, Petersham, Mass., 1972, $5.75
----. MISCELLANIES, Boston, 1893
Thoreau Lyceum, Concord, 1972, $8.50
----. MISCELLANIES, Boston, 1898
Johnson, N. Bennington, Vt., 1971, $3.50
----. THE MOON, Boston, 1927
Richard West, Philadelphia, 1957, $5.00
Goodspeed's, Boston, 1961, $3.00
Edward Morrill, Boston, 1965, $15.00
Harold Burstein, Waltham, Mass. 1969, $25.00
Currey, Elizabethtown, NY, 1971, $25.00
----. NATURE THEMES, Portland, 1906
Robert Merriam, Deerfield, Mass., 1970, $3.00
Malcolm Ferguson, Concord, Mass., 1960, $1.25
----. "NIGHT & MOONLIGHT", Atlantic Monthly, Nov. 1863
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1971, $38.00
----. NIGHT AND MOONLIGHT, NY, 1921
O'Neal, New Ipswick, N.H., 1974, $20.00
----. NOTES ON NEW ENGLAND BIRDS, Boston, 1910
Burstein, Waltham, Mass., 1975, 15.00
----. ON MAN AND NATURE, Peter Parke Press, 196?
Current Co., Bristol, R.I., 1973, $2.00

(To be continued)